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difficult to position more than one scanning force microscope to measure multiple signal waveforms in a small area of surface 118. More generally, in present day scanning probe microscopes employing optical deflection sensors, it is difficult to position two or more probes in close proximity due to the protrusion of the optical path used to sense cantilever motion beyond the end of the cantilever.--

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[ Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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A2  
--In one embodiment, an optical source 303 generates a light 323, which is directed through beam splitter 307, lens 309 and then is deflected off mirror 311. As shown in the embodiment of Figure 3, light 323 is directed through free space to cantilever 315 of probe 313. In one embodiment, light 323 is directed from optical source 303 in a direction having a directional component from the fixed end to the free end of the cantilever 315. In one embodiment, optical source 303 is independent of cantilever 315 and incident light 323 to cantilever 315 is therefore independent of mechanical motion of cantilever 315. However, the mechanical motion of cantilever 315 is detected with detector 305 through reflected light 323, which in one embodiment is reflected through free space from cantilever 315. In one embodiment, light 323 is reflected off cantilever 315 in a direction having a directional component from the free end to the fixed end of cantilever 315. In one embodiment, light 323 is reflected back to mirror 311 through lens 309 and off beam splitter 307 into detector 305.--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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--Figure 6 is an illustration showing greater detail of one embodiment of a probe 313 in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. As shown in Figure 6, probe 313 includes a cantilever 315 attached at a fixed end to a chip 601. In one embodiment, the other end of cantilever 315 is a free end. In one embodiment, cantilever 315 includes silicon. In one embodiment, cantilever 315 includes silicon nitride. In one embodiment, a reflective structure 603 is included on the back side of cantilever 315. As shown in Figure 6, one embodiment of reflective structure 603 includes a skewed reflective surface relative to a surface of cantilever 315. In one embodiment, a tip 605 is included on the front side of cantilever 315. In another embodiment, tip 605 is not included on the front side of cantilever 315. In yet another embodiment, cantilever 315 is transparent to light 323 and a reflective structure 604 may therefore be disposed on the front side of cantilever 315.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A4  
--As shown in Figure 6, light 323 in one embodiment is reflected through free space from a skewed reflective surface of reflective structure 603. In one embodiment, light 323 is reflected from cantilever 315 in a direction having a directional component from the free end to the fixed end of cantilever 315. In one embodiment, light 323 is reflected back in substantially the opposite direction from which light 323 originated. In

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another embodiment, light 323 is reflected back in a different direction, but still reflected from cantilever 315 in a direction having a directional component from the free end to the fixed end of cantilever 315. An example of this embodiment is illustrated in Figure 4.--

[ Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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--Figure 7 is an illustration of another embodiment of a probe 713 in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. Probe 713 of Figure 7 includes a cantilever 315 attached at a fixed end to a chip 601. In one embodiment, the other end of cantilever 315 is a free end. In one embodiment, a reflective structure 703 is included on the back side of cantilever 315. In one embodiment, a tip 605 is included on the front side of cantilever 315. In another embodiment, tip 605 is not included on the front side of cantilever 315. In yet another embodiment, cantilever 315 is transparent to light 323 and a reflective structure 704 may therefore be disposed on the front side of cantilever 315.--

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicant submits that the legend "PRIOR ART" was inadvertently omitted from Figures 1 and 2. Reference numerals 305A, 305B, 307A, 307B, 309A and 309B were included in Figure 5, but were not referenced in the written specification. Reflective structures 604 and 704 were not included in Figures 6 and 7, respectively, but were already described in the written description as filed. Accordingly, Applicant submits proposed drawing corrections in the form of red-mark originals of Figures 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7. Applicant requests Examiner to approve the drawings. Applicant will submit formal